Use of Monkey in Sunglasses Tests

1705. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that manufacturers of sunglasses use monkeys for conducting tests which are quite brutal;

(b) whether it is a fact that monkeys are exported from India for this purpose: if so, the details thereof; yearwise; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to stop the export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Government of India is not aware of use of monkeys for conducting tests brutally by the Indian manufacturers of unglasses.

(b) No export of monkeys is reported for this purpose;

(c) Export of monkeys is not permitted under Wild Life Protection Act.

Study regarding the worst Polluted cities like Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta by W. H. O.

1706. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a WHO study, Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta are amongst the worst polluted cities in the world;

(b) if so, what are the WHO findings about the main sources of pollution and the extent of pollution caused by them; and

(c) what remedies, if any have been suggested by WHO and what steps are contemplated by Government to maintain the environment of these cities within reasonably healthy limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) In a report of World Health Organisation and United Nations Environment Programme on "Global Pollution and Health", 1984, Calcutta Delhi and Bombay rank 18, 27, 37 respectively n the list of 54 cities taken up for monitoring in respect of Sulphur dioxide; and 6th and 4th and 13th respectively in the list of 41 cities taken up for monitoring in respect of pollution from Suspended Particulate Matter. The major sources of pollution in these cities are vehicular pollution, domestic fuel burning and natural dusty conditions

(c) The steps taken to control pollution in these cities include the following:

(1) Emission standards have been prescribed.

(2) Ambient air quality standards have been evolved.

(3) A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations has been set up.

(4) Air pollution control areas have been notified.

(5) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(6) Industries have been directed to instal necessary air pollution control equipment on a time bound basis.

(7) Fiscal incentives are provide for installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

(8) Legal action is taken against the defaulting units under the relevant acts.

(9) Gross emisison standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross emission standards with effect from 1st March, 1990.

(10) The Mass Emission standards for vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules 1989. The standards for petrol driven vehicles have come into force from April 1, 1991, and standards for diesel driven vehicles have come into force from April 1, 1992.

(11) Public awareness campaign have been launched about vehicular pollution

(12) Steps have been initiated to introduce compressed natural gas (CNG) in Delhi and Bombay.

Identification of Area of Degraded Forest Land

1707. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether definite areas of degraded forest land have been identified and determine for being rejuvenated and developed into forests in different states during the current year 1993-94 and during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the extent of degraded forest areas to be so developed into forest area in the counry; and

(c) the funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The State-wise details of the degraded forest areas (crown density less than 40 per cent) in the country assessed by the 1991 report of the Foret Survey of India is given in the statement I attached (See below)

(b) and (c) Afforestation|tree planting under the 20.Point Programme, including regeneration of degraded forest areas are continuing activities undertaken in the States on a year to year basis keeping in view the availability of funds under the State and the Central Plans.

The State-wise targets proposed for afforestation|tree planting activities, including regenaration of degraded forest areas, during 1993-94 as well as the allocations for the forestry sector in the State Pans are given in the statement II-attached.

A total sum of Rs. 363.5 crores is also to be provided under the Plan schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Agriculture. It is proposed to increase the coverage of the afforestation|tree planting activities during the remaining years of the Eighth Five Year Plan.